

NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release

August 26, 2019

For more information, contact: Melissa Haas 308-487-3600 x 104 or 1-866-701-7173

Practice mosquito bite prevention this fall

Panhandle Public Health District (PPHD) would like to remind Panhandle residents that while the air seems a bit cooler, mosquitoes have not gone away and are still active well into the fall season. As fall sports begin, PPHD encourages all students, athletes, coaches, and fans to practice mosquito prevention to help fight the spread of West Nile virus.

PPHD routinely traps mosquitoes in the Panhandle area and several traps have had mosquitoes test positive for West Nile virus this season. Mosquitoes are tested well into the fall season until the first freeze. Cases of West Nile virus also continue to pick up as the season progresses. Football games are especially important to remember to wear insect repellent at due to the time of day they are held and the variable conditions of the field.

PPHD encourages mosquito bite prevention by recommending the following tips:

- Wear long pants and long sleeves, especially if outdoors during dawn and dusk, when mosquitoes are most active.
- Use insect repellent that contains DEET, picaridin, or oil of lemon eucalyptus.
- Check for standing water in the area, if any present drain immediately.

To report a dead bird or to request further information on West Nile virus, please visit www.pphd.org or call 308-487-3600 x104 or toll free 866-701-7173. Panhandle Public Health District is working together to improve the health, safety and quality of life for all who live, learn, work and play in the Panhandle. Our vision is that we are a healthier and safer Panhandle Community.